

F. No. 11-599/ 2014-FC
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(Forest Conservation Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan
Aliganj, Jorbagh Road
New Delhi - 110 003
Dated: 19th October, 2015

To

The Principal Secretary (Forests)
All State Governments / Union territory Administrations

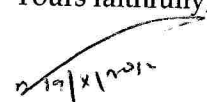
Sub: Guidelines for diversion of forest land for non-forest purposes under the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980- Submission of proposals to obtain approval for diversion of entire forest land located within a mining lease.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter of even number dated 1st April 2015 on the above -mentioned subject, and to say that some of the States have sought clarification from this Ministry on applicability of para 2 (v) of the said letter to the existing mining leases (as on the date of the issue of the said letter) having forest land in part where approval under Section 2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for even a part of the forest land falling in such leases has not been obtained, and to say that to facilitate this Ministry to take decision on the matter, details of existing mining leases having forest land in part or in full for which though the mining lease has already been executed at least once before 1st April 2015 but approval under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for even a part of forest land falling in such mining lease has not been obtained, may be provided to this Ministry at the earliest, and in any case before the expiry of a period of one year from the date of issue of the said letter dated 1st April 2015.

2. I am further directed to say that till decision on the said matter is taken by this Ministry after the receipt of the afore-mentioned information from all the States and Union territories, the States and Union territories if so desires, may seek general approval under section 2 (iii) of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for the forest land falling in such mining leases, on case to case basis, by giving details (*viz.* date of execution of mining lease deed and area of forest and non-forest land falling in such mining leases) of one or more of such mining leases to this Ministry in letter form.

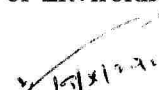
Yours faithfully,


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director

Copy to:-

1. Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India.

2. Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Government of India.
3. Secretary, Ministry of Steel, Government of India.
4. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, all States/UTs.
5. Nodal Officer, the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, all States/UTs.
6. All Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC).
7. Joint Secretary, In-charge, Impact Assessment Division, MoEF.
8. PS to the Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
9. Chairman, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, all States/UTs.
10. Member-Secretary, State Environment Impact Assessment Authority, all States/UTs.
11. All Directors/ Assistant Inspector General of Forests in Forest Conservation Division, MoEFCC.
12. All Advisors/ Directors/ Dy. Directors in the Impact Assessment Division, MoEFCC.
13. Director, Regional Office (Headquarters), MoEFCC. .
14. Sr. Director (Technical), NIC, MoEFCC with a request to place a copy of this letter on website of this Ministry.
15. Sr. PPS to the Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
16. Sr. PPS to Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
17. Sr. PPS to Addl. Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
18. Sr. PPS to Inspector General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
19. Guard File.


(H.C. Chaudhary)
Director